

254 New Custom House
Denver 2, Colorado
January 5, 1956

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[REDACTED]
District Attorney
2nd Judicial District
Denver, Colorado

RE: JACK GILBERT GRAHAM, was.,
John Gilbert Graham,
Jack Gilbert King
MURDER

Dear [REDACTED]

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There are set forth hereinafter the results of our additional investigation in captioned case.

This letter is set out in sections with information in each section relating to information set out under similar caption in my letter of November 30, 1955.

Investigation is continuing to more fully develop the facts regarding the purchase of the dynamite and timer used by subject Graham. You will be kept advised of the results of our investigation.

Very truly yours,

W. W. BURKE
Special Agent in Charge

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/18/04 BY AUC/60290/BCE/TG/RBR

98-43035-332

ENCLOSURE

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[] stated that when the subject went through his gate on his way to the KING ranch, he, [] had observed the rocks in the back of the pickup truck but that he had not observed the inside of the truck cab.

[] stated that while he was conversing with the subject, the subject mentioned that he had not been able to get the door of the cabin (school house) opened. [] stated he thought it was a little strange that the subject would make a false statement regarding the fact as to whether he could get into the cabin or not, but he did not place any particular significance on it.

In regard to the case of dynamite which was found in the outhouse on the DAISIE E. KING property, [] stated he had no idea whatsoever as to how the dynamite got on the ranch. He stated that he never knew of DAISIE E. KING or EARL KING having any dynamite and knew of no plans they had for using dynamite. He further did not know of any plans they had for digging any well on the property.

[] stated that two or three weeks previously the subject's wife and sister and a lawyer from Denver attempted to get on the property in order to visit the ranch but were prevented from doing so by []. Arrangements had been made with [] to go to the ranch on his sled. He stated that he overheard part of the conversation and that the attorney was aware of the fact that a case of dynamite had been found on the property by officers. [] said it is possible that [] told the attorney and the subject's relatives of the fact that the dynamite had been obtained on the property. It should be noted that [] is the [] the team and sled which was used by the officers in obtaining the dynamite from the outhouse on the KING property.

[] advised that approximately three days before the attorney and the subject's relatives attempted to go on the KING property, a green jeep bearing two men had gone across the [] property onto the KING property. She did not know the identity of the men but stated they must have visited the KING ranch on about November 25, 1955.

VIII. SEARCHES

On November 22, 1955, [redacted]
[redacted] Toponas, Colorado, and SA [redacted]
[redacted] hiked to the ranch of DAISIE E. KING and conducted
a search of the buildings there.

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SA [redacted] located a 50 pound box of Gold Medal
Ajax number 2 dynamite 45 per cent, EZ-Load, one and one-
eighth inches by eight inches, bearing the date stamp of
October 3 or 5, 1955. The box of dynamite was sitting on the
east end of the seat in an old outhouse located to the
rear of an old log cabin which was located approximately
100 feet from the schoolhouse on the KING ranch.

After the procurement of a search warrant,
[redacted] and Sheriff RITTER obtained
the box of dynamite and took it to the store in Toponas,
Colorado, where it was counted and weighed. The box
contained 146 sticks with a net weight of 49 pounds 4 ounces.

On December 21, 1955, [redacted]
[redacted] of DAISIE E. KING, was contacted by Under-
[redacted] and SA [redacted] stated it was
permissible for the [redacted] and SA [redacted] to search
the buildings on the property of DAISIE E. KING, including
the old schoolhouse building.

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[redacted] in the presence of [redacted]
and SA [redacted] telephonically contacted [redacted]
[redacted] of DAISIE E. KING, who advised that
it was all right with him for a search to be conducted of
the DAISIE E. KING property. [redacted] advised that the two
officers could obtain the keys to the ranch in his office
desk. The keys to the KING ranch were obtained from [redacted]
[redacted] desk by [redacted]

On December 21, 1955, [redacted]
[redacted] and SA [redacted]
conducted a search of the ranch house of DAISIE E. KING and
of all the other buildings on the property. Particular
attention was directed to the vestibule of the old school-
house building. No timing device or any other articles of
evidentiary value were observed or obtained.

B. DYNAMITE

On November 22, 1955, SA [] accompanied by [] Routt County, Colorado, entered the EARL KING farm which is located seven miles west of Toponas, Colorado, and 50 miles south of Steamboat Springs, Colorado. A Waiver of Search had previously been obtained from JACK GILBERT GRAHAM on November 13, 1955, including permission to inspect the farm buildings on this ranch. While checking an outhouse located on the old homestead ranch, SA [] and [] located a wooden box, new in appearance, upon which was stamped "50 pounds Gold Medal Dynamite, 45% mark-up load, Ajax #2, 1 1/8 by 8 inches". The box was stamped October 3 (or October 5 - number is not clear), 1955. While the box gave no indication of having been opened, the contents rattled slightly.

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On November 23, 1955, SA [] advised that Sheriff A. B. RITTER and [] (14th Judicial District - Colorado) were obtaining a search warrant and would pick up the above mentioned dynamite from the KING ranch. Sheriff RITTER with [] located the above mentioned box of Illinois Powder Company dynamite - "Gold Medal" brand dated October 3, 1955, and on November 25 BERSCHE delivered this box of dynamite to [] Identification Division, Denver Police Department, at the direction of []. This box was found to contain 146 sticks of dynamite weighing 49.4 pounds net. [] Colorado, advised SA [] on November 23, 1955, that DAISIE E. KING furnished him with a key to the ranch buildings in order that he might take care of the ranch until her return from Alaska. [] stated that about November 3, 1955, he boarded up the windows of the cabin, but did not go in the old outhouse.

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In reference to the formerly reported information concerning sale of dynamite to GRAHAM by [] of Kremmling, Colorado, [] has advised SA [] that he is unable to pinpoint the hour, day, or week in October that he sold the dynamite to GRAHAM. He stated the only thing he was positive of was that he had not sold it on October 23, 24, or 25, as [] was out of town on those

days: however, it could have been any other day in October. [redacted] on November 25, 1955, advised that a former employee, [redacted] was in the store when the dynamite was sold to JACK GILBERT GRAHAM and could assist in defining the date of the sale, and that [redacted] is believed to reside at Fallon, Nevada.

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On November 28, 1955 [redacted] [redacted] advised SA [redacted] [redacted] that during the week of October 24-29, 1955, he had been employed at BROWN'S General Store, Kremmling, Colorado, and was requested by [redacted] to get a couple cases of 50% "ditching powder" (this refers to 50% dynamite compared with a lower percentage of explosive as used in making the above-mentioned 45% Ajax #2 referred to above.) [redacted] stated that at this time he noticed a young man talking to [redacted] whom he described as about 25 years old, 5' 7-8", wearing light blue or gray sport coat. He stated that he obtained the two cases of dynamite from the powder magazine and placed the cases at the rear of the store and went home. He was unable to give a more complete description of this aforementioned individual, nor could he identify a photograph of JACK GILBERT GRAHAM. He further stated that his recollection as to the exact week in October was tentative and could not be confirmed by him. He returned to work at Kremmling on or about the 15th of December, 1955.

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In regard to the dynamite manufactured by the Illinois Powder Manufacturing Company, [redacted] [redacted] Illinois Powder Company, Denver, Colorado, was contacted by SA [redacted] on November 23, 1955. [redacted] furnished the names of retailers and large users of dynamite purchased from his company. Investigation relative to the sale of Illinois dynamite will be described later, however, special interest was paid to the particular shipment of dynamite marked October 3, 1955, and companies which purchased this particular lot were questioned carefully concerning the sale of this powder and no information has been developed to date to identify the above-mentioned box located by SA [redacted]

[redacted] indicated that a box of Ajax #2 dynamite weighs 50 pounds and contains on the average of 151 sticks, however, the number of sticks varies slightly.

[redacted] advised that he would assist the FBI in every way possible and in his sales contacts should he obtain information concerning the sale of the above-mentioned dynamite or any other relevant information, he would notify the Denver Office FBI.

It should be pointed out that known samples of Illinois Powder Company electric blasting cap wires have been compared with wires obtained from subject GRAHAM'S shirt pocket and all samples have been described by the FBI Laboratory as #22 gage standard wire, tin coated copper with polyvinyl chloride plastic insulation containing a lead chromate as yellow pigment and that GRAHAM'S wires were similar in all respects to the known samples of the Illinois Powder Company product. Examination for tool marks on the wire ends was made and no pertinent information was developed. It was further pointed out that the wires from subject GRAHAM'S pocket were not similar to known samples of DuPont #6 electric cap wires obtained from

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[redacted] Kremmling, Colorado. This information was furnished by communication dated November 29, 1955.

Investigation of the sale of dynamite and particularly efforts to identify the purchasers of small amounts (two cases or under) are continuing. Equal attention is necessarily being paid to the sources of electric blasting caps and connecting wires. It has been pointed out that in the Colorado area there are four manufacturers and distributors, to wit, the DuPont de Nemours Company, the Illinois Powder Manufacturing Company, the Hercules Powder Company, and the Atlas Powder Company. It is believed that all of the retailers of dynamite and electric caps have been ascertained through the assistance of the above companies. These retailers have been contacted in the Denver area and additional contacts with more remote mining regions are still being made. It has been developed, according to

[redacted] DuPont de Nemours Company, that the yearly sales of all the dynamite manufacturers in the state of Colorado exceeds nine million pounds, and that his company alone at their Louviers Plant (near Denver) is capable of producing over one million pounds per month, and supplies several nearby states.

This dynamite is sold in carload lots (20,000 pounds per carload) to large mining companies and in case lots to small hardware stores, lumber companies, and mining

camp distributors. It has been developed that while records are maintained by the dynamite manufacturing companies retailers are not required, with the exception of the community of Golden, Colorado (a Denver suburb), to maintain a record of the individual purchasers.

Dynamite is purchased by individuals throughout the state of Colorado in amounts of one stick to several cases for the purpose of uranium prospecting, stump clearing, ditching, and other miscellaneous uses. A large percentage of the sales are made for cash and to a number of uranium prospectors which makes the sale of dynamite to strangers no matter of particular concern to any of the retailers interviewed. It has been pointed out by [redacted]

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[redacted] of Evergreen, Colorado, that road construction jobs and local miners frequently stack cases of dynamite in the open and that most prospectors and construction men keep very careless accounts of their use and supply. He stated that many would not likely notice the theft of 5 to 25 sticks of dynamite. While the sale of electric caps is much more limited, only in Golden, Colorado, do they maintain a record of the buyer and according to [redacted] of the Illinois Powder Company, 11,631 of his particular brand - Gold Medal - electric caps were sold in the month of September, 1955, and in October, 1955, 10,437 Gold Medal electric caps were sold.

[redacted] advised that concerning the sale of Illinois Powder his company sold during the month of October about 1,000 pounds of dynamite in the Denver area alone, and further that any of the large purchasers of Illinois dynamite buy directly from the Utah manufacturing plants. These large purchasers of dynamite have been and are still being checked concerning any known loss or resale of stick dynamite.

During interviews with the retail dealers for the purpose of checking out the sale of small amounts of dynamite, in no instance has any indication of lack of cooperation been noted. Every dealer has indicated his complete willingness to assist in this investigation, but in each case it has been explained that the cash sales could not be recalled and that only a small percentage of the retail sale of dynamite was made to regular customers, except for the large companies referred to above.

In the description of the above-mentioned problem regarding the sale of small amounts of dynamite, the following information was furnished on December 19, 1955, by [redacted] and [redacted] Florence Hardware Company, Florence, Colorado, to SA [redacted] and [redacted] were unable to identify a photograph of the subject as being that of any person who had ever purchased Hercules dynamite or electric caps at their store. [redacted] further pointed out that, except during World War II, they never maintained any type of record or log as to purchasers of blasting caps and dynamite. During the last year the company has sold over two freight cars of dynamite, principally to local mining contacts in rather large quantities, but nevertheless due to the local uranium activities has sold numerous small amounts of blasting caps and dynamite on a "cash over-the-counter basis" to various unknown persons on a nonrestricted basis, except to juveniles. He stated that he would be presently unable to identify such purchasers by name and in any instance by descriptions.

The FBI Laboratory has been furnished scraps of wreckage and debris removed from the crash scene for comparison with dynamite samples previously furnished including samples of the DuPont product sold by [redacted] Kremmling, Colorado, and the Illinois dynamite (Ajax #2) located at the EARL KING ranch.

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In particular reference to the sale of Illinois dynamite dated October 3, 1955, every known outlet has been contacted and [redacted] Craig and McCoy Company, Boulder, Colorado, has advised SA [redacted] that a large portion of the shipment of the Illinois Powder stamped October 3, 1955, which his company obtained was sold to a miner, [redacted] but that much of this dynamite was sold in case lots and he maintains no record of the purchasers. He stated that all of the retailers of dynamite have stated that they have seen numerous pictures of the subject, JACK GILBERT GRAHAM in the newspapers and that they certainly would have furnished information to the FBI office had they identified GRAHAM as one of the purchasers of dynamite in their store.

[redacted] advised on November 28, 1955, that he is a uranium miner and that he has used his entire stock

of October 3 dynamite and has had no loss, theft, nor has he resold any of this product. He was also acquainted with newspaper photographs of the subject.

The FBI Laboratory confirmed on December 7, 1955, the above-mentioned comparison of the wires found in JACK GRAHAM'S shirt pocket and the known samples of Illinois Powder Company electric caps and wires, and further advised that no pieces of dynamite wrapper have been identified from material furnished from the crash scene and no wires similar to the dynamite cap wire referred to above were contained in the material furnished from the November 1, 1955 airline crash.

[redacted] of the DuPont Company, furnished a list of DuPont and competitive explosives retailers. This includes the names and locations of 52 Colorado companies along with a list of numerous retailers in surrounding states.

On November 22, 1955, [redacted] Brown Brothers Super Sav-R, Kremmling, Colorado, advised SA [redacted] that she positively recalls that she was sitting at her desk at the rear of the store and a man came up and asked about purchasing dynamite. [redacted] stated she does not personally handle any sales of dynamite and recalls calling [redacted] to wait on the man.

[redacted] stated she paid absolutely no attention to this customer and the only thing she recalls about him is that he was a stranger to her. She stated she does not know whether he was a young or an old man, nor how he was dressed. She stated she does not recall whether she was working on the payroll or regular statements and does not know whether it was on a Saturday night or a week night.

[redacted] was unable to establish just how long ago the transaction had taken place, all she could say was that it was "quite a while ago."

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On December 6, 1955, [redacted] Kremmling, Colorado, was interviewed by ASAC ROY K. MOORE, and SA [redacted] [redacted] at Denver, Colorado.

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[] stated that he had made every attempt to find a way to verify that it was on Saturday, October 29, 1955, that he sold 25 sticks of DuPont dynamite and two electric dynamite caps to subject, without success. He stated that he had run through all of his charge tickets and other store records and had talked to various persons whom he thought were in the store on the same day that GRAHAM purchased the dynamite. He stated that he still believes that he sold the dynamite to GRAHAM between 6:30 and 7:00 P. M., October 29, 1955, as this was the date that his partner was killed in an airplane crash in Craig, Colorado, and as he recalls he was notified of his partner's death shortly after having sold the dynamite to GRAHAM.

In regard to information furnished by [] employee in [] store, that during the week of October 24-29, 1955, [] had requested him to get a couple of cases of 50% "ditching powder," [] informed that he recalls this case where he asked [] to go to the magazine and get two cases of "ditching powder," but that this was not the occasion on which he sold GRAHAM the dynamite.

[] stated that he handles batteries similar to the type subject used in the dynamite bomb, however he did not sell the battery to GRAHAM and the other clerks in the store do not recall having sold the battery to him either.

[] concluded that the Eveready 6-volt, Hot Shot batteries in his store sell for \$4.65 which is stamped on the battery with a rubber stamp which contains a reddish color ink, the figures being about one-fourth inch high.